Amendments to the Specification

Please amend para. [0008] on pgs. 2-3 with the following amended paragraph.

[0008] FIG. 1 illustrates a distributed database environment in which embodiments of the invention are implemented. A plurality of client systems 2a, 2b, 2c communicate with a server 4 over a network 6. The client systems 2a, 2b, 2c each include a database client program 8a, 8b, 8c capable of submitting database requests to a database server program ~~10a, 10b, 10c~~ 10 executing in the server 4 to access data in the databases 12. The client database program 8a, 8b, 8c may submit database requests within SQL applications, through separately transmitted instructions, and/or via stored procedure calls, as described below. The requests may comprise database queries, read, and write requests, or any other type of operation request known in the art requiring computational resources, such as memory, processor resources, etc.